IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of   Atty. Docket

FONTIJN et al.   NL 030687

Serial No.   Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY   Ex.

FLEXIBLE FORMATTING FOR UNIVERSAL STORAGE DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

    This Amended Preliminary Amendment is being filed in response
to the Notification of Non-compliant Preliminary Amendment mailed
September 25, 2007.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A drive device for providing access to a record carrier (10), said drive device (30) comprising access means (20) for providing at least one of a read access and a write access to at least one predetermined parameter written on a predetermined navigation area (DN) on said record carrier (10), said at least one predetermined parameter specifying at least one of a logical format and an application format used on said record carrier (10).

2. (original) A device according to claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined parameter comprises a disc descriptor information (DD) for specifying at least one of an identification of said record carrier, a type of said record carrier, and parameters applying to said record carrier as a whole.

3. (currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said at least one predetermined parameter comprises a partition descriptor information (PD) for specifying at least one of a nature of each partition on said record carrier, a type of each partition on said record carrier, a space associated with each partition on said record carrier, a fragment allocation to each

partition on said record carrier, and specific rules for recording

on each partition on said record carrier.

4.   (currently amended)   A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is

configured to provide at least one of a read access and a write

access to an application use area (AUA) provided in said navigation

area for storing an application specific information available to

at least one of a physical layer, a logical layer and an

application layer of said drive device (30).

5.   (currently amended)   A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said at least one parameter of

said navigation area (DN) is accessible by at least one of a

logical layer and an application layer of said drive device (30) by

using a predetermined access command.

6.   (currently amended)   A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged

to provide a caching function for caching at least a part of the

information provided on said navigation area.

7.   (currently amended)   A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged

to use pointers stored in said navigation area (DN) for partitioning said record carrier (10) into separate areas.

8. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use said navigation area (DN) for determining the location of a starting address number in the logical address space for said record carrier (10) as a whole or for a specific application.

9. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use said navigation area (DN) for reserving space in a program area of said record carrier (10) for specific file systems, allocation classes or applications.

10. (original) A device according to claim 9, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use said navigation area (DN) for assigning properties or attributes to said reserved space.

11. (currently amended) A device according to ~~claims 9 or 10~~claim 9, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use said navigation area (DN) for providing pointers into said reserved space and room for application specific data.

12. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use pointers stored in said navigation area (DN) for applying a seeking function.

13. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use said navigation area (DN) for selecting an application class for an application.

14. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to write to said navigation area (DN) a location information of data accessed at a rate higher than a predetermined number or an access pattern information for sequential data retrieval.

15. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged to use a dynamic partitioning for defining areas in said navigation area (DN).

16. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~ ~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged

to apply a volume-based rights management to sessions of an

information area (IA) of said record carrier (10).

17. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said access means (20) is arranged

to apply a volume-based, partition-based or fragment-based defect

management to sessions of an information area (IA) of said record

carrier (10).

18. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said drive device is a removable

drive device (30) for an optical disc (10).

19. (currently amended) A device according to ~~any one of the~~

~~preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said drive device (30) comprises a

standard interface (32) for storage devices.

20. (original) A device according to claim 19, wherein said

standard interface (32) is a PCMCIA, Compact Flash, Newcard, or

MMCA interface.

21. (original) A record carrier for storing data on an

information area (IA) thereof, wherein said information area

comprises a navigation area (DN) for storing at least one

predetermined parameter specifying at least one of a logical format
and an application format used on said record carrier (10).

22.   (original)   A record carrier according to claim 21, wherein
said navigation area (DN) is arranged in a lead in area (LI) of
said information area (IA).

23.   (currently amended)   A record carrier according to claim 21 ~~or
22~~, wherein sessions provided in said information area (IA) are
written without separate lead-in and lead-out area.

24.   (currently amended)   A record carrier according to ~~any one of
claims 21 to 23~~claim 21, wherein sessions provided in said
information area (IA) have a granularity of one fragment.

25.   (currently amended)   A record carrier according to ~~an one of
claims 21 to 24~~claim 21, wherein sessions provided in said
information area (IA) have at least one of a varying size and a
varying physical location.

26.   (original)   A method of reading from or writing to a record
carrier (10), said method comprising the steps of:
a)   providing on said record carrier (10) a predetermined
navigation area (DN);

b)   writing on said navigation area (DN) at least one

predetermined parameter specifying at least one of a logical format

and an application format used on said record carrier (10); and

c)   using said at least one predetermined parameter for at least

one of a read access and a write access to said record carrier

(10).

<u>REMARKS</u>

The foregoing amendments to the claims were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The amendment to the claims does not address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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